



**Minnesota Department of Transportation**

**State Aid for Local Transportation**

Mail Stop 500, 4th Floor  
395 John Ireland Boulevard  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1899

Fax: 651-366-3801

August 21, 2009

Doug Nelson  
City of Rochester  
201 SE 4th Street, Room 108  
Rochester, MN 55904

**SUBJECT: SP 159-080-14, STPX 5509 (143)**  
**20<sup>th</sup> Street SE Connection**  
**From 11<sup>th</sup> Ave (CSAH 1) to Marion rd (CSAH 36)**  
**EA Update/Section 4(f) Evaluation & FONSI Approval**

Dear Mr. Nelson:

Enclosed is the FHWA Finding Of No Significant Impact dated August 17, 2009, and a copy of the approved Environmental Assessment Update/Section 4(f) Evaluation for this project.

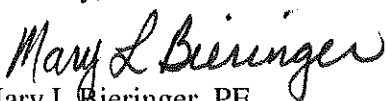
Please note that a Notice of Availability of the FONSI and the Environmental Assessment Update must be sent to Federal, State and Local agencies as appropriate. Copies of the EA Update and the FONSI must be made available upon request by the public.

Your next step will be to submit a Study Report. This should include discussion of any revisions to the project and associated environmental impacts. Warrant analyses should be included for any signals that will be impacted. Required permits should be attached, if received.

Consultation with Mn/DOT's District Right-of-Way Engineer and review of State Aid Manual regarding right-of-way acquisition procedures is recommended.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 651-366-3820 or by e-mail at [mary.bieringer@dot.state.mn.us](mailto:mary.bieringer@dot.state.mn.us).

Sincerely,

  
Mary L. Bieringer, PE  
Project Development Engineer

Enclosures

cc: Roger Clay - AECOM  
Steve Kirsch - DSAE  
File



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**

Minnesota Division

August 18, 2009

380 Jackson Street  
Galtier Plaza, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-4802  
651.291.6100  
Fax 651.291.6000  
[www.fhwa.dot.gov/mndiv](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/mndiv)

Thomas K. Sorel  
Commissioner of Transportation  
Department of Transportation  
MS 100, Transportation Building  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

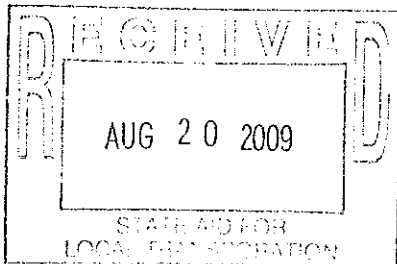
Re: Finding of No Significant Impact  
Minnesota Project Number STP 5509(143)  
State Project Number 159-080-14  
20<sup>th</sup> Street SE Connection  
In the City of Rochester  
Olmsted County, Minnesota

Dear Mr Sorel:

Enclosed is the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the subject project, as requested by Mary Bieringer's June 22, 2009, letter. This Finding concludes that the project will not significantly impact the human environment.

A Notice of Availability of the FONSI must be sent to the Federal, State, and local government agencies that are likely to have an interest in the undertaking in the State intergovernmental review contacts. It is encouraged that agencies, which commented on the Environmental Assessment (or requested to be informed) are advised of the project decision, the disposition of their comments and provided a copy of the FONSI.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (651) 291-6110 or [phil.forst@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:phil.forst@fhwa.dot.gov).



Sincerely,

Philip Forst  
Area Engineer

Enclosure



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
MINNESOTA DIVISION**

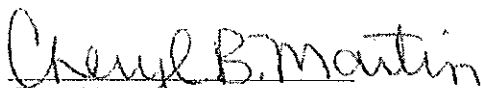
**ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION  
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
FOR  
MINNESOTA PROJECT STP 5509(143)**

Minnesota State Project Number 159-080-14  
20<sup>th</sup> Street SE Connection in the City of Rochester  
In Olmsted County, Minnesota

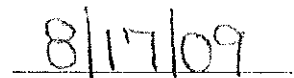
The proposed project consists of constructing 1.06 miles of 2-lane roadway on 20<sup>th</sup> St SE in the City of Rochester from County State-Aid Highway 1 to County State-Aid Highway 36. The proposed project also consists of constructing two bridges: Bridge Number 55585 over East Fork Willow Creek and Bridge Number 55586 over Bear Creek.

The Federal Highway Administration has determined that the proposed improvements, as described in the Environmental Assessment (EA) will have no significant impact on the human environment. This FONSI is based on the attached EA which has been independently evaluated by the FHWA and determined to adequately and accurately discuss the need, environmental issues, and impact of the proposed project and appropriate mitigation measures.

The EA provides sufficient evidence and analysis for determining that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. The FHWA takes full responsibility for the accuracy, scope, and content of the EA for the subject project.

  
Cheryl Martin

Project Development Team Leader  
Federal Highway Administration

  
Date